

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for morning business for debate only, with Senators speaking for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### GARRETT LEE SMITH MEMORIAL ACT

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Chair now lay before the Senate the House measure to accompany S. 2634, the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act.

There being no objection, the Presiding Officer (Mr. CHAMBLISS) laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

(The bill will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask whether there be objection to proceeding to the measure at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The message is before the Senate.

Mr. SMITH. I ask, then, unanimous consent that the Senate concur in the House amendment, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, this is a much happier day for me than it was 1 year ago. A year ago yesterday, my son, Garrett Lee Smith, took his life. Today it is his birthday, and today my heart is not filled with sadness but with joy because the Congress of the United States has acted with near unanimity, an overwhelming vote in the House of Representatives, Republicans and Democrats alike, and for a second time now the Senate, without objection, 100 strong, Republican and Democrat alike, has acted not as partisans but as Americans on an issue that afflicts families all over our land, the issue of mental health, of depression among our youth that often, too often, even at epidemic levels, can lead to suicide.

This has been for me a very long and difficult year. I am grateful for the support of family and friends and, especially here now, my colleagues. I had many thoughts in mind when this occurred because I was raised to believe that no success can compensate for failure in one's home. And when my son took his life, I felt the ultimate failure. Yet I have come to learn from colleagues, some of them, like the leader, medical experts, others like MIKE DEWINE, who has suffered much in his family through the loss of a daughter; PETE DOMENICI, who has helped me to understand the lethal nature of mental illnesses, and so many more.

I have been buoyed up and strengthened sufficient to carry on my public responsibility and try to find from the loss of my son some new meaning in his life. Today the Congress has acted on his birthday. My wife Sharon and I are profoundly thankful to all of you. What we have done today is to pass a bill that will enable the States, encourage the States, incentivize the States to have youth suicide prevention programs to, with parental permission, give testing to identify, under the strictest of privacy, those children who may have a predisposition toward depression and suicide.

We have given the incentive to the States to set up college backstops, counseling, intervention measures, to help where this epidemic is most acutely felt, and that is on American college campuses. We are setting up a national repository of information through SAMSHA, where the best ideas from the 50 laboratories that are the 50 United States can be brought together and shared so intervention can be more effectively made to save more of America's sons and daughters.

When this bill left the Senate, I thought it was in perfect form. But I learned something about a bicameral legislature in working with my colleagues in the House. They made it better. They had many good suggestions. And I feel it appropriate to say that while some I am entirely in agreement with and others I would have preferred not be there, I support the bill as it has come from the House of Representatives.

I owe a great deal of thanks to some specific individuals. If you will bear with me, Mr. President, I would like to thank some of them and also note for those colleagues who may be concerned about parental notification precedence that the House was willing to put in there provisions that this tougher parental notification is applicable just to this bill and in no way affects No Child Left Behind legislation.

I need to say thank you to some very significant people without whom this bill would not have passed. First, I want to thank Chairman JOE BARTON, the Congressman from Texas, who chairs the House Commerce Committee. I say to all the world, and particularly his constituents, he is a man of his word. He had tremendous pres-

sure on him not to proceed with this, but he gave me his word. He is good for it. He worked with me. He demanded much of me. We gave much. But under considerable pressure he stood up against it and made this to pass.

To Speaker HASTERT and Leader DELAY, thank you for your permission, thank you for making this happen, allowing it to happen, and also being good to the commitments that were made to me and other colleagues and to the White House.

I thank my House sponsors, Congressman BART GORDON of Tennessee, Coach TOM OSBORNE of Nebraska. Coach OSBORNE knows something of young people and their struggles. He was wonderful to work with. DANNY DAVIS, of Illinois, spoke eloquently about this bill on the Senate floor last evening. My own Congressman, GREG WALDEN, who helped to shuttle this through the House, I am profoundly thankful to him. I also note EARL BLUMENAUER and PATRICK KENNEDY of Rhode Island were particularly helpful to me in passing this legislation. I am grateful to them.

Senator SANTORUM—they call him a Pope over there—is regarded in very exalted terms and a term of affection. He was unusually helpful in helping me to make my way through the House membership and to get this passed.

Leader FRIST, this would not happen without you. At every turn you have been there for me and helped me to get through this year. JUDD GREGG, the chairman of our committee, with jurisdiction, was wonderful to make this possible and happen in the Senate. MITCH MCCONNELL, your staff, Leader FRIST's staff, were very helpful. They went the extra mile back and forth from the House to Senate Chambers time and again for me. I thank the staffs of all of these people who worked so hard.

Senator DODD and Senator KENNEDY have been unusual champions of this issue, and issues of mental health. They have been wonderful guides. Senator JACK REED of Rhode Island helped to author a major provision.

HARRY REID, the Democratic whip, has been a stalwart and counseled me to take this and do that. I say to him, thank you, sir, for your help and your understanding of the issue of suicide.

I thank Leader DASCHLE as well because without his understanding that this was not partisan this would not have happened. I am grateful to Leader DASCHLE.

I mentioned MIKE DEWINE. MIKE is behind me and will speak to this issue. If you could package goodness in human form, it would look like MIKE DEWINE.

I think most significantly for me has been the woman who sits to my right, Catherine Finley, who is a person of talent, tenacity, and temperament sufficient to take a stand-alone bill, in a very short period of time, pass it through the Senate, the House, and back through the Senate again. I am